United Nations E/AC.51/2014/L.4/Add.33

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: Limited
27 June 2014

Original: English

Committee for Programme and Coordination
Fifty-fourth session
2-27 June 2014
Agenda item 7
Adoption of the report of the Committee on its fifty-fourth session

Draft report

Rapporteur: Mr. Hiroshi **Onuma** (Japan)

Addendum

Proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017
(*Item 3 (b)*)

Programme 3
Disarmament

1. At its 9th meeting, on 5 June 2014, the Committee for Programme and Coordination considered programme 3, Disarmament, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017 (A/69/6 (Prog. 3))

2. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

3. Delegations expressed appreciation and continued support for the programme and the work of the Office for Disarmament Affairs.

4. Clarification was sought regarding the status of the changes presented to the Committee at its fifty-third session. It was recalled that changes had been introduced in subprogrammes 1, 2 and 5, including changes to the organizational structure of the programme, which the Committee had decided not to recommend to the General Assembly for approval.

5. Delegations noted that several General Assembly resolutions and a decision had been deleted from the list of legislative mandates. It was pointed out that those legislative mandates remained of vital importance to the programme in the delivery

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of its activities. In that regard, an explanation was sought for the changes made in the presentation of relevant documents. Delegations also requested the Secretariat to provide information on specific mandates that were relevant to individual expected accomplishments.

6. The view was expressed that, under paragraph 3.3, no reference had been made to practical disarmament measures for the biennium 2016-2017. As a result, clarification was sought regarding the concept of practical disarmament measures, which had been included in the biennial programme plan and priorities for the period 2014-2015 (A/67/6/Rev.1).

7. The view was also expressed that, under paragraph 3.4, the Office for Disarmament Affairs had placed lesser emphasis on developing countries in the effort to enhance disarmament expertise in Member States, as compared with the programme for the biennium 2014-2015.

8. Clarification was sought regarding the view of the Secretariat on the nature of the support and assistance to be provided to the General Assembly, as reflected in paragraph 3.5.

9. Clarification was also sought regarding the security-related matters indicated in paragraph 3.6.

10. Clarification was sought regarding follow-up and future trends in the area of nuclear disarmament, as reflected in paragraph 3.9 (c) under subprogramme 2. Delegations pointed out that there was a need to address the analysis of current trends in the area of proliferation and the follow-up to the Conference on Disarmament, discussion of which had occurred during the sixty-eighth session of the General Assembly. Delegations expressed concern regarding the lack of emphasis on disarmament measures and the deletion of a strategy that had been reflected in paragraph 3.9 (e) of the biennial programme plan and priorities for the period 2014-2015. Clarification was also sought as to the specific mandate for monitoring and assessing current and future trends and the plan of the Secretariat in relation to consensus-building under subprogramme 2.

11. Delegations questioned the rationale for the inclusion under subprogramme 3, Conventional arms (including practical disarmament measures), of expected accomplishment (a), Effective facilitation of implementation of the Arms Trade Treaty by States parties, given that the Treaty had not yet entered into force. Clarification was sought regarding the challenges that were expected to emerge in the biennium 2016-2017 and how other major treaties had been treated in that regard.

12. Questions were raised concerning the mandates that supported the objectives of the programme, and the various strategies to be carried out in meeting those objectives. Clarification was sought regarding the role of the Secretariat in achieving the mandates of the Organization.

13. The view was expressed that, under subprogramme 2, Weapons of mass destruction, the reference to their means of delivery related exclusively to means specifically designed for the delivery of weapons of mass destruction.

Conclusions and recommendations

14. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narrative of programme 3, Disarmament, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017, subject to the following modifications:**

Overall orientation

Paragraph 3.3

Replace the paragraph with the following:

"3.3 Within the Secretariat, substantive responsibility for the programme is vested in the Office for Disarmament Affairs. The strategy of the Office in meeting the programme's objectives is designed around five subprogrammes and is based on its role in and responsibility for facilitating and encouraging, as appropriate, measures aimed at disarmament and non-proliferation in all its aspects and at all levels, in particular weapons of mass destruction. The Office will continue to assist Member States in promoting, strengthening and consolidating multilaterally negotiated principles and norms in all areas of disarmament and non-proliferation in all its aspects. It will support efforts of Member States in the areas of disarmament and non-proliferation in all its aspects in order to promote international peace and security and contribute to global efforts against terrorism. The Office will enhance its capacity for more in-depth analysis, keeping track of developments in those areas, and provide Member States with timely and practical advice, as requested."

Paragraph 3.5

Replace the paragraph with the following:

"3.5 The Office will seek to achieve the objectives of the programme by facilitating the process of multilateral deliberation and negotiation. This will include providing substantive organizational support to the First Committee, the Disarmament Commission and other subsidiary bodies of the General Assembly, the Conference on Disarmament and its subsidiary bodies, review conferences and other meetings of parties to multilateral disarmament agreements as required by States parties to such instruments and entities as well as to expert groups mandated by the General Assembly."

Paragraph 3.6

Replace the first sentence with the following:

"The Office will continue to be a source of impartial and factual information on disarmament and related security matters for Member States, organizations of the United Nations system and intergovernmental, regional and non-governmental organizations and will expand its educational outreach programmes."

Subprogramme 1
Multilateral negotiations on arms limitation and disarmament

Amend the title of the subprogramme to read: "Multilateral negotiations and deliberations on disarmament and arms limitation".

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

In expected accomplishment (b), after the word "adopted", insert "by the General Assembly and".

Indicators of achievement

Replace indicator of achievement (b) (i) with the following:

"(i) Increased reporting by Member States on their steps to implement treaty obligations, decisions, recommendations and programmes of action adopted by the General Assembly".

Replace indicator of achievement (b) (iii) with the following:

"(iii) The number of visits to and page views of the websites of the Office for Disarmament Affairs and United Nations Office at Geneva".

Strategy

Paragraph 3.8

Replace subparagraph (c) with the following:

"(c) Supporting the implementation of decisions, recommendations and programmes of action adopted by the General Assembly as well as those adopted by conferences and meetings of States parties to various multilateral disarmament, non-proliferation and arms limitation agreements".

Replace subparagraph (f) with the following:

"(f) Assisting Member States, in particular developing countries, at their request, in capacity-building and the holding of disarmament conferences, seminars and workshops by providing substantive support on a non-discriminatory basis."

Subprogramme 2
Weapons of mass destruction

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

Replace expected accomplishment (a) with the following:

"(a) Effective and enhanced facilitation of the process of negotiations, deliberations and consensus-building on the total elimination of all weapons of mass destruction, in particular nuclear weapons, on disarmament and non-proliferation in all its aspects, delivery systems and outer space, and universality of international instruments dealing with weapons of mass destruction, in particular

nuclear weapons, by Member States and States parties, at their request".

Replace expected accomplishment (b) with the following:

"(b) Enhanced knowledge, understanding and multilateral cooperation within the existing mandates, as well as the ability to support investigation of the possible use of chemical and bacteriological (biological) or toxin weapons in accordance with its mandate, defined in General Assembly resolution 42/37 C, and to respond to challenges relating to the acquisition and use of weapons of mass destruction by non-State actors".

Indicators of achievement

Replace indicator of achievement (a) (ii) with the following:

"(ii) Increased number of requests for expertise to support negotiations and deliberations on disarmament and non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction consensus-building and implementation efforts".

Strategy

Paragraph 3.9

Replace subparagraph (a) with the following:

"(a) Supporting Member States in their negotiations, deliberations and consensus-building in the areas of disarmament and non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, in particular nuclear weapons and their means of delivery, as well as assisting Member States, at their request, in their efforts to achieve the full implementation and universalization of multilateral agreements and to prevent terrorist groups from acquiring weapons of mass destruction;".

In subparagraph (b), after the word "arrangements" insert the words "and agreements".

Replace subparagraph (c) with the following:

"(c) Monitoring and assessing current and future trends in the area of weapons of mass destruction, including nuclear weapons, with a view to achieving enhanced capacity to provide Member States with timely and accurate information and analysis;".

Subprogramme 3
Conventional arms (including practical disarmament measures)

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

Delete expected accomplishment (a) and renumber the subsequent expected accomplishments accordingly.

Indicators of achievement

Delete indicator of achievement (a) and renumber the subsequent indicators of achievement accordingly.

Strategy

Paragraph 3.10

Delete subparagraph (a) and renumber the subsequent subparagraphs accordingly.

In subparagraph (b), formerly (c), delete the words "and the dissemination of International Small Arms Control Standards".

Subprogramme 4
Information and outreach

Objective of the Organization

Before the word "understanding", insert the word "awareness,".

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

Replace expected accomplishment (a) with the following:

"(a) Timely provision, increased utilization and improved access to factual and objective information and education materials of the Office for Disarmament Affairs".

Strategy

Paragraph 3.11

In subparagraph (b), before the word "composition", insert the phrase "ensuring gender balance and equitable geographical distribution of its".

Replace subparagraph (f) with the following:

"(f) Facilitating the participation of civil society, especially non-governmental organizations, in disarmament-related conferences and meetings, including access to documentation, the organization of oral presentations, the holding of special events and the mounting of exhibits, in accordance with established rules of procedure."